**Financial Assistance to SCs/STs under National Overseas Scholarship**

3774. DR. (MS.) P. SELVIE DAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that financial assistance is provided to SC/ST candidates under the National Overseas Scholarship for pursuing higher studies abroad in specified field of master level course, Ph.D. and post-doctoral research programmes in engineering, technology and science;

(b) if so, how many candidates belonging to SCs/STs/Others have applied and how many of them have ben benefited, during the years 1998-99,1999-2000 and 2000-2001, stream-wise; and

(c) the number of SCs/STs who have completed their studies, so far, stream-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWEMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) For the selection years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000, 128 applications were received under the Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for SC/ST etc. candidates, out of which 51 candidates were short listed by the Screening Committee. All the short-listed candidates were asked to appear before the Selection Committee for interview. The Committee selected 26 candidates, out of whom 25 candidates have been issued provisional award letters and selection of the other candidates has been cancelled as he had furnished false information. Stream-wise details of 25 candidates is enclosed in the statement *{see* below). Out of these 25 candidates, confirmation award letters have been issued to two candidates, who have succeeded in obtaining admission abroad for pursuing Masters/Ph.D. course. As per guidelines, the selected candidates are required to secure admission in reputed Universities in their respective areas within three years from the date of award. The duration of financial assistance for Masters degree and Ph.D. is two and four years respectively. Since the candidates selected during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are only in the process of obtaining admission etc., the question of those who have completed the courses does not arise.

As regards the selection year 2000-2001, the selection process has already been initiated and not yet completed.

**Statement**

*Stream-wise details of provisionally selected candidates for the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 (combined) under the scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for SC, ST etc. candidates*

| S.No. | No. of Candidates | Level of the course | Specified Subject |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 5 | 4 Master and 1 Ph.D. | Computer Engineering/Computer Science/Software/ Information Technology |
| 2. | 2 | 1 Master and 1 Ph.D. | Satellite/Remote Sensing |
| 3. | 1 | Master | Aircraft/Space Engineering |
| 4. | 1 | Ph.D. | Laser Technology |
| 5. | 3 | 2 Master and 1 Ph.D. | Energy System/Energy Conservation/Energy Storage Engineering |
| 6. | 1 | Ph.D. | Manufacturing Technology |
| 7. | 11 | 10 Ph.D. and 1 Post Doctoral | Biology/Bio-Technology/Genetic Engineering/Molecular Virology |
| 8. | 1 | Ph.D. | Ceramic and Glass Technology |

**Misappropriation of Funds by NGOs in Ad lira Pradesh**

3775. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some NGOs in Andhra Pradesh getting grants from her Ministry have been blacklisted for misappropriating the funds/grants released to them;